

J S C ★ S

S H I N I N G

S T A R

Galvez orchestrates center's audiovisual activities

By Nicole Cloutier

It's not often that you hear that a love of music brought someone to NASA. But for Juan Galvez, audiovisual manager for JSC, that's exactly what happened.

Galvez always had an interest in music and even from his days in the high school marching band and rock group, the Honduran native wanted to work behind the scenes. "I wanted to be the one recording the band," recalls Galvez who continues to play the guitar and the drums.

His interest in music was shared by his older sister and in 1981 he moved to the United States to join her at the University of Florida. With a strong interest in radio, he originally sought a degree in audio engineering. However, once he learned video and broadcast production, his interest expanded to television.

He graduated in 1985 with a major in television production and returned to Honduras to open a production studio with his sister, which he still co-owns with her. He also worked for the Honduran Advisory Center for Human Resource Development as manager for production and commercialization of multimedia. It was there that he received a call from a friend at NASA about an opening.

"For someone outside of the United States, just the opportunity to have an interview at NASA was a big deal," said Galvez.

That was in 1991 and he was hired as a technical monitor in NASA's Image Sciences Division. Eight years later, his role has grown to overseeing a team of 15 professionals in the Public Affairs Office to coordinate JSC's audiovisual activities. His team facilitates everything from

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producing educational space videos, to coordinating live call-in television programs with astronauts, to helping Walker Cronkite conduct a live interview with John Glenn.

"That was a highlight," said Galvez. "It was my five seconds of fame, being on the same stage with Walter Cronkite, and they introduced me as 'Juan Valdez,' the guy in the Colombian Coffee commercials.

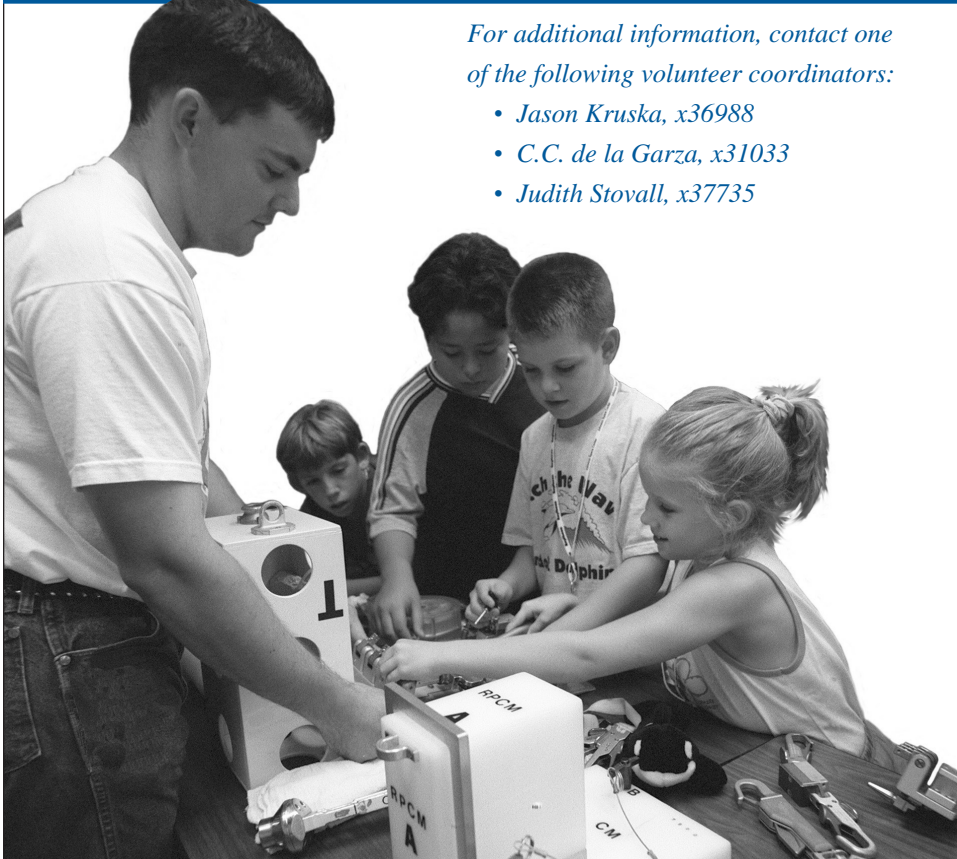
Luckily I made a joke out of that and carried on," said Galvez. "Real-time changes are what live TV is all about." Galvez isn't frightened by change, a trait he attributes to his Honduran background. "I know how fortunate we are in this country when it comes to products and services, but I'm used to having to do more with less," said Galvez. "My experience overseas obligated me to be resourceful and to learn to be very flexible. And flexibility is a 'must' if you are to survive in a constantly changing environment like the communications industry."

That's probably why Galvez is so suited to the job where projects, deadlines and logistical needs are so fast-paced and dynamic. "That's the part I like most about my job," said Galvez. "It's always challenging and as soon as you complete one project, you'll be working on something completely different the next day."

These days, more and more of his projects are tied-in with the International Space Station. "The space station is going to be fascinating," said Galvez. "It offers a lot more opportunities for us to communicate the work NASA is doing to the public on an ongoing basis, instead of one shuttle flight at a time.

"For us, it might be a routine day at work, but for the folks on the receiving end, talking to an astronaut from their classroom through a telephone or computer link is a once in a lifetime opportunity," continued Galvez. "Especially for the kids. They are really inspired after something like that, and that's when I get the most satisfaction from my job." ■

Volunteers needed for Open House



For additional information, contact one of the following volunteer coordinators:

- Jason Kruska, x36988
- C.C. de la Garza, x31033
- Judith Stovall, x37735

The success of Open House will depend upon the participation of volunteers from JSC. More than 250 volunteers are needed. Volunteers will staff information booths, act as rovers, assist visitors with directions, staff the lost child center, and help keep the cafeterias clean during peak times. All employees and contractors are urged to sign up for this exciting event. There is a special need for bilingual volunteers. To sign up, visit the Open House Web site <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/openhouse/Databases/> and select the time and position you would like to work. ■

Managers to register Web sites across center

NASA has entered into a "Security Campaign" which has three components: physical security, computer security, and information release management. Recognizing the importance of the Web as both a strategic asset and a potential security risk, JSC Chief Information Officer Jack Garman initiated registration of Web sites across the center. Sites not registered will not be accessible from outside JSC.

The Web, as we know it, did not even exist at the beginning of this decade. In January 1993, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign released the first Web browser, named Mosaic, which was developed by Marc Andreessen. At that time, about two million computer hosts resided on the Internet. The Internet had been around since 1969, but was still mostly an arcane technology known mainly to researchers, defense experts, academicians, and computer experts.

Today, there are more than 43 million hosts on the Internet and the word itself has entered common usage. Andreessen went on to form Netscape Communications Corporation.

At Johnson Space Center, Web browsers are part of the standard software load on computers and have become essential tools in today's workplace. In a remarkably short period of time, the Web has moved from novelty to a good way to

get some things done to a vital strategic asset in accomplishing our mission. Web site registration is intended to enhance both the quality and security of this valuable resource. NASA managers who register Web sites are, in short, certifying that their sites adhere to quality and security guidelines.

Quality is assured by adherence to basic principles and legal guidelines that have been articulated in NASA and JSC policies. These are accountability, integrity of content, privacy notices, navigation/style, and appropriateness of links to Web pages external to the government domain.

"We have a fairly large investment in internal Web pages that may require additional investments in people's time to maintain the standards of quality and timeliness that JSC needs," said Garman. "By asking both the owners and management of those sites to reassess at what they have, we will help everyone determine where it is best to continue making such investments."

The second area of emphasis in the registration is security and the appropriate protection and release of information via the Web. Web servers which have no Web sites registered will be blocked from access outside of the JSC campus after September 1.

All information pertaining to this exercise is located at the JSC Web site registration home page <http://jsc-cio01.jsc.nasa.gov/webwg/registration/index.htm> ■